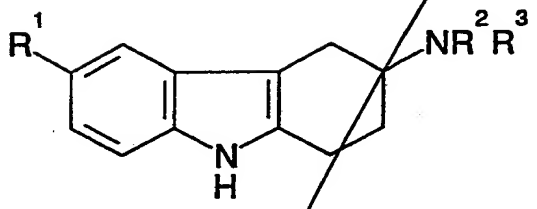
Claims :

1. Use of a compound of general formula (I):



Formula (I)

wherein :

R^1 represents hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro, hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, arylC_{1-6}alkoxy, $-CO_2R^4$, $-(CH_2)_nCN$, $-(CH_2)_nCONR^5R^6$, $-(CH_2)_nSO_2NR^5R^6$, C_{1-6}alkanoylamino$(CH_2)_n$, or C_{1-6}alkylsulphonylamino$(CH_2)_n$;

R^4 represents hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl or arylC_{1-6}alkyl;

R^5 and R^6 each independently represent hydrogen or C_{1-6}alkyl, or R^5 and R^6 together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a ring;

n represents 0, 1 or 2; and

R^2 and R^3 each independently represent hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl or benzyl or together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a pyrrolidino, piperidino or hexahydroazepino ring;

or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a condition where a 5-HT_1-like agonist is indicated.

2. Use according to claim 1 wherein the condition is migraine.

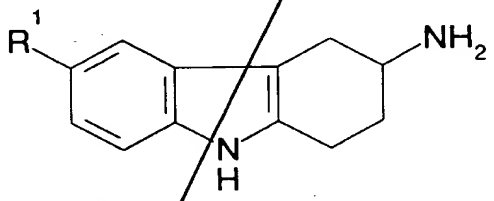
3. Use of a compound according to either claim 1 or claim 2 wherein R^1 represents halogen, CF_3, C_{1-6}alkoxy,

$-(CH_2)_nCN$, $-(CH_2)_nCONR^5R^6$, $-(CH_2)_nSO_2RN^5R^6$ or C_{1-6}alkanoylamino, and R^5 and R^6 are as hereinbefore defined.

4. Use of a compound according to claim 3 wherein R^1 is a group $-(CH_2)_nCONR^5R^6$, wherein n is zero and R^5 and R^6 each independently represent hydrogen, methyl or ethyl.

5. Use of a compound according to any of claims 1 to 3 wherein R^2 and R^3 each independently represent hydrogen, methyl or ethyl.

6. A compound of formula (IA) :



Formula (IA)

wherein R^1 is as hereinbefore defined with the proviso that R^1 is not hydrogen, hydroxy, methoxy or benzyloxy, or a salt thereof.

7. A compound of formula (I) selected from :

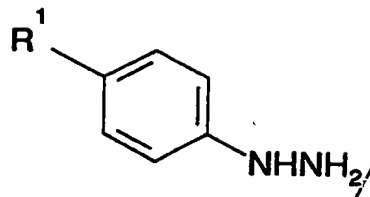
3-Amino-6-cyano-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
(+)-3-amino-6-carboxamido-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
(-)-3-amino-6-carboxamido-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-amino-6-bromo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-amino-6-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-amino-6-ethoxycarbonyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-amino-6-(N-methyl carboxamido)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-amino-6-cyanomethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-amino-6-(N-methylsulphonamidomethyl)-1,2,3,4tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-amino-6-chloro-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-amino-6-trifluoromethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;

3-amino-6-n-butyloxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-amino-6-sulphonamido-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-amino-6-nitro-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-amino-6-(N,N-dimethylcarboxamido)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-amino-6-(piperidin-1-ylcarbonyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-amino-6-(pyrrolidin-1-ylcarbonyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-amino-6-(N,N-diethylcarboxamido)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-Amino-6-(acetamido)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-amino-6-methanesulphonamido-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-amino-6-carboxamidomethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-methylamino-6-carboxamido-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-ethylamino-6-carboxamido-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-n-propylamino-6-carboxamido-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-i-propylamino-6-carboxamido-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-dimethylamino-6-carboxamido-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-benzylamino-6-carboxamido-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-pyrrolidinyl-6-carboxamido-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
3-(N-(methyl)ethylamino)-6-carboxamido-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole; and
3-amino-6-(2-carboxamidoethyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole;
or a salt thereof.

8. A method of treatment of a condition wherein a 5-HT_1-like agonist is indicated, which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) as hereinbefore defined or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof.

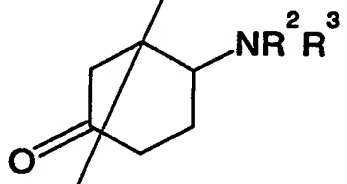
9. A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 6 or claim 7 which comprises :

A) Reaction of a compound of formula (II) :



Formula (II)

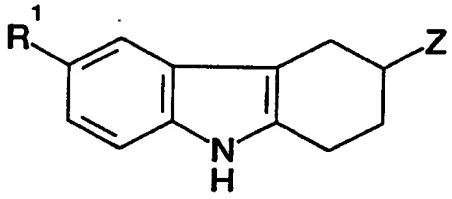
(wherein R^1 is as hereinbefore defined) or an acid addition salt thereof with a compound of formula (III) :



Formula (III)

(wherein R^2 and R^3 are as hereinbefore defined) or an N-protected derivative thereof; or

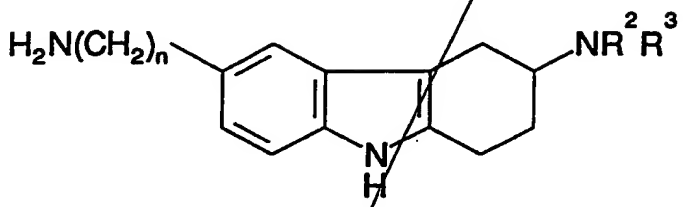
B) Reaction of a compound of formula (IV) :



Formula (IV)

(wherein R^1 is as defined for formula (I) and Z is a leaving group) with a compound of formula HNR^2R^3;

C) Reacting a compound of formula (V) :



Formula (V)

with an acylating or sulphonylating agent;

D) Conversion of one compound of formula (I) into another compound of formula (I) eg.

(i) to prepare a compound of formula (I) wherein R^1 represents $-(CH_2)_nCONH_2$ or CO_2R^4, hydrolysis of a compound of formula (I) wherein R^1 represents $-(CH_2)_nCN$, or an N-protected derivative thereof;

(ii) to prepare a compound of formula (I) wherein R^1 represents $-CONR^5R^6$, amination of a compound of formula (I) wherein R^1 represents $-CO_2H$, or an N-protected derivative thereof; or

(iii) to prepare a compound of formula (I) wherein one of R^2 and R^3 is hydrogen and the other is C_{1-6}alkyl, alkylation of a compound (I) in which R^2 and R^3 are both hydrogen;

(iv) to prepare a compound of formula (I) wherein R^1 represents hydroxy, cleavage of a compound wherein R^1 represents alkoxy or aralkoxy;

followed if necessary by deprotection of any protected nitrogen atoms and if desired by salt formation.

10. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 6 or claim 7 or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof and a physiologically acceptable carrier.

Add A1